COMIC SHOP NEWS™

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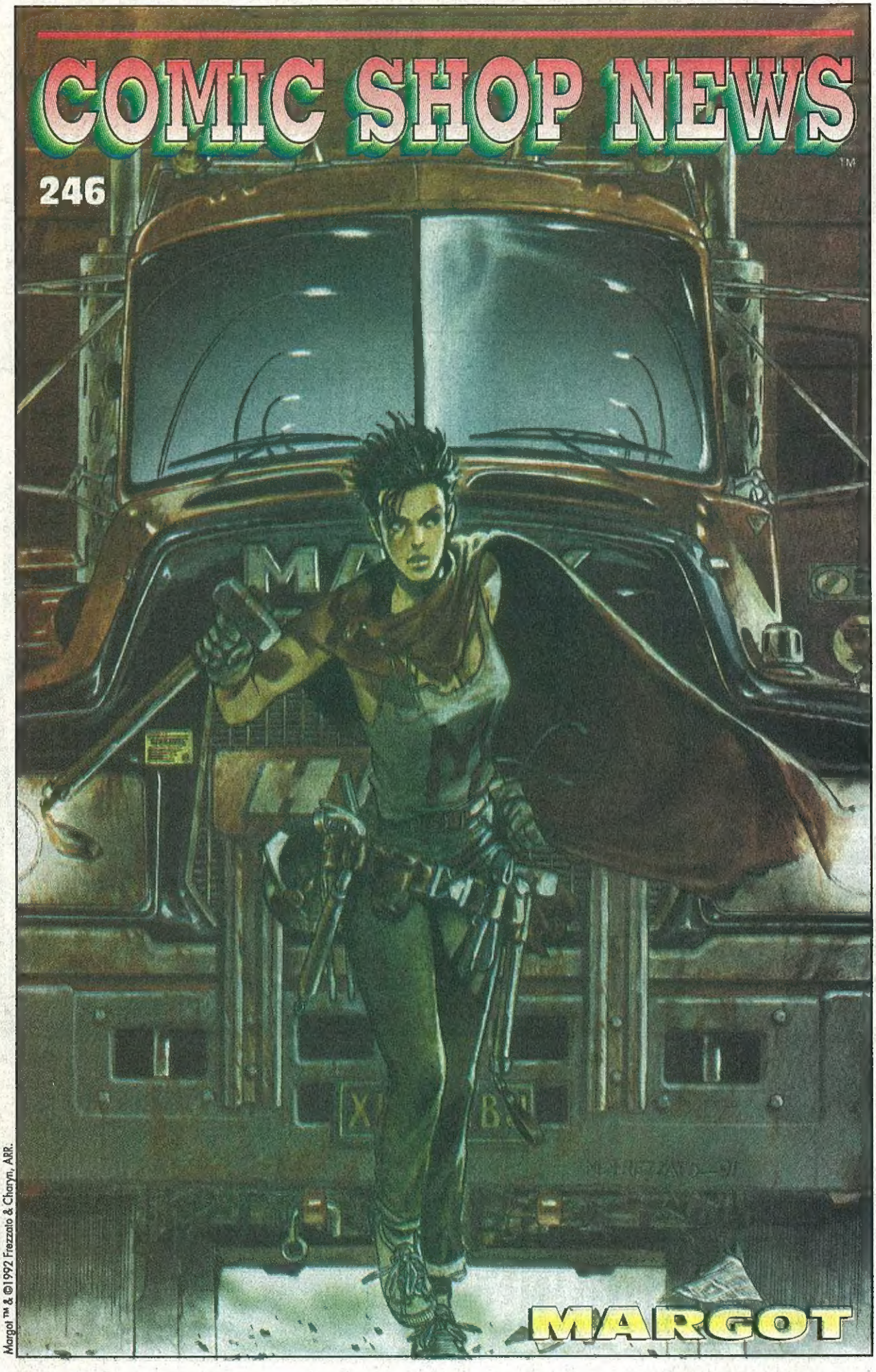
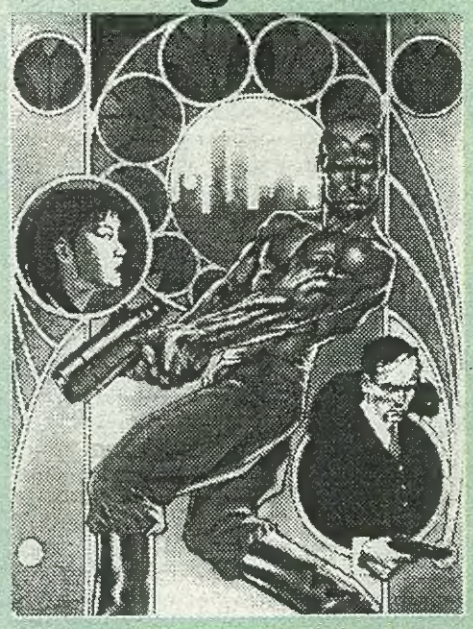


Margot ™ & ©1992 Frezzato & Charyn, ARR.

New Series Explores the Savage Past



There aren't very many fans who don't know who Doc Savage is--but no one knows why Doc Savage was created. What motivated Clark Savage, Sr., to "recreate" his own son in a bizarre human experiment? Doc Savage himself has on occasion wondered about that very thing--and in Millennium's second Doc Savage limited series, ***Doc Savage: Doom Dynasty***, writers Mark Ellis and Terry Collins present their own speculations.

"In many of the original novels, Doc wondered what had motivated his father, "Mark Ellis said. "Several theories have been put forth by Savage scholars to explain this mystery. Science fiction writer Philip Jose Farmer postulated in his ***Doc Savage: His Apocalyptic Life*** that Doc's father may have been consumed with guilt due to a past indiscretion." In this new limited series, Doc discovers a book that may present the answers: a long-hidden journal of Clark Savage, Sr., that not only may answer some questions about the creation of Doc Savage, but may also reveal hitherto-unknown information about Doc Savage's ancestry.

Doc Savage: Doom Dynasty also introduces a "new" character to the Doc Savage mythos, an adversary who is determined to end the Savage line. Ironically, the character, Doctor Nikola, predates Doc Savage himself. "Doctor Nikola is a character who appeared in five mystery novels at the turn of the century," Ellis said. "Created by Australian author Guy Boothby, the Nikola novels were extremely popular with English and American thriller fans. Will Murray (writer of the new Doc Savage novels) suggested transplanting the evil Nikola to Doc's milieu. Nikola is the perfect adversary for Doc--he is brilliant, ruthless, and wickedly charming. Accompanied by his large black cat, Nikola was obviously an inspiration for the Devil Doctor himself, Fu Manchu."

In ***Doom Dynasty***, readers learn that Nikola murdered Doc Savage's grandfather in 1901 and intends to eliminate Doc Savage as well. Even worse, he also has a plan to destabilize Africa of the 1930's by spreading a deadly plague virus using infected monkeys as carriers--and the virus in question was accidentally developed by Doc Savage's grandfather, Nikola's victim! The only clue to a cure is contained somewhere within the same hidden journal that just might reveal why Clark Savage, Sr., had his own son recreated as Doc Savage!

Doc Savage: Doom Dynasty is plotted by Mark Ellis and scripted by Terry Collins, whose work has appeared in such diverse publications as ***Quantum Leap*** and ***Jughead.*** Mike Wieringo supplies the interior art, while Brian Stelfreeze handles the painted cover honors. ***Doom Dynasty #1***, a March release, is priced at $2.50.

by Cliff Biggers

Make Mine Margot!

The big city can be pretty intimidating at times--so it's no surprise that Margot's friends are concerned when she departs from Prairie Dog, Texas, for the excitement of New York City. At first, Margot seems to be a naif in the urban jungle--but before too long, it becomes very clear that Margot is ready to become queen of this jungle, and nothing is going to stand in her way...

Margot in Badtown, a 56-page full-color hardcover graphic album from Tundra, is the first book in a series of European Album format books forthcoming from Tundra in the near future. Created by writer Jerome Charyn and artist Massimiliano Frezzato, the book is filled with evil slumlords, innocent victims, construction workers with hearts of gold--in short, your typical big-city inhabitants, right?...

Of course, the real star of ***Margot in Badtown*** is the art of Frezzato, whose lovely color style makes each page a visual treat. For those who want to be able to analyze Frezzato's work in more detail, Tundra will be offering a ***Margot in Badtown*** poster featuring the cover art for the book in an oversized format. ***Margot in Badtown,*** a $14.95 graphic novel, is slated for March release; the ***Margot in Badtown poster***, priced at $5.95, follows a month later.

by Alex Kirkland

The Once And Future Green Lantern

It was an inevitable conflict: Hal Jordan versus Guy Gardner. The two personalities have clashed so often that, sooner or later, the two were certain to conclude that there simply couldn't be two Green Lanterns on Earth. In ***Green Lantern #35***, that battle finally occurs--and the result will leave only one Green Lantern to protect Sector 2814.

The battle may be a title bout for the Green Lantern-ship, but Green Lantern readers are going to find that the absence of one Green Lantern is going to lead into more Green Lantern adventures than ever before. At the same time that DC settles the Jordan-Gardner conflict, they also plan to add two new ongoing ***Green Lantern*** series to their line.

Green Lantern: Mosaic, a monthly series debuting on April 16th, focuses on the third Green Lantern from Earth, John Stewart. This series follows from the events of the "Mosaic" storyline in ***Green Lantern #s*** 14-17; Stewart is the protector of Mosaic, an experimental society housed on Oa, created by the Guardians of the Universe to see just how well the inhabitants can survive on their own. John Stewart must act as their protector, their adjudicator, and their voice of reason. ***Green Lantern: Mosaic*** is written by Gerard Jones, the regular writer of ***Green Lantern;*** he is joined by artists Cully Hamner and Dan Panosian. Each 32-page issue is priced at $1.25; the first issue features a cover by ace artist Brian Stelfreeze.

The second new ***Green Lantern*** series debuts a week later. ***Green Lantern Corps Quarterly*** gives the various members of the Green Lantern Corps a "home base" for their own solo adventures. New Green Lanterns will be introduced in this series as well. Each 64-page issue will feature an assortment of stories; the debut issue features material by Roger Stern and Dusty Abell; Scott Lobdell and Joe Staton; Gerard Jones and Tim Hamilton; John Ostrander and Flint Henry; and Doug Moench and Paul Gulacy. As the title indicates, the book will appear every three months; each issue will be priced at $2.50.

On April 30th, Gerard Jones, Mark Bright, and Joe Staton present the ultimate battle between Guy Gardner and Hal Jordan in ***Green Lantern #35***, an oversized $1.75 comic. The events of this book will directly lead into the ***Guy Gardner*** prestige-format limited series that debuts in May. (Yes, indeed--it's a *third* new Green Lantern-related series!... And the title of that miniseries should give the astute reader a clue as to the outcome of that aforementioned battle...)

Three landmark books in April, another debut in May--and still more is on slate for DC's Green Lantern extravaganza! First is ***Green Lantern: The Road Back***, a trade paperback reprinting the first eight issues of the new ***Green Lantern*** series. This 192-page book is priced at $8.95. Two weeks later, DC has scheduled a poster for ***Green Lantern: Mosaic***, a $4.95 poster illustrated by series artists Cully Hamner and Dan Panosian; look for it on April 30th. And finally, on May 5th, DC kicks off the two-volume ***Green Lantern/Green Arrow Collection;*** the first volume reprints ***Green Lantern/Green Arrow #76-82,*** the first seven "social relevance" issues written by Denny O'Neil and illustrated by Neal Adams. The second volume follows in May, along with a new ***Green Lantern T-shirt***. And of course, there's the standard ***Green Lantern T-shirt*** scheduled for April release from Graphitti Designs, featuring the Green Lantern logo on a black shirt...

With all these projects in the works, it's no wonder that ***Green Lantern*** fans are getting charged up about this year--and all those other DC heroes are undoubtedly green with envy...

by Cliff Biggers

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COMICS SHOP NEWS™
3 • 11 • 92
A Comics Specialty Outlet
From:
100% RECYCLED NEWSPRINT
RECYCLE IT AGAIN!

QUICKSHOTS

A Giger Day-Counter

"He is our latter-day Hieronymous Bosch, the Dutch fabulist come again, demonic and erotic," *Harlan Ellison* said of *H.R. Giger*, the acclaimed Swiss fantasist whose "biomechanical" style of art has been a major influence on science fiction and horror film-making, gains new fans every day; in recent months, more affordable editions of some of his books have appeared, thereby creating legions of new Giger collectors looking for reproductions of his art wherever they can find them. Morpheus International is ready to give Giger's fans just what they're looking for in a very budget-conscious (and useful) format: a 1993 calendar that features thirteen color images plus photos, key dates in Giger's life as well as those of other famous surreal and fantastique writers and artists, and more. According to Morpheus, the calendar "contains large format reproductions of his unique paintings, each one personally selected by Giger for inclusion in this richly designed calendar." The **1993 H.R. Giger Calendar**, scheduled for May '92 release, is priced at $14.95; as with all specialty items of this sort, be sure to let your local comic shop know that you're interested--and tell them that you heard about it in **CSN,** okay?...

It's In the Bag

Okay, here's the dirt: Marvel is putting **Dirt** in a bag, pricing it at $3.50, and selling it to fans in April. We're not talking about potting soil here; **Dirt** is described by Marvel as "the only magazine that appeals to 14-to-20-year-old males on general topics, much as Sassy and Dixteen appeal to females. Every issue has interviews with celebrities, advice, new music news, sports, cars, fashion, and many other topics that interest the younger male population."

So what's the comics angle here? Well, the first issue of **Dirt** is being polybagged with two different comics; first is **Farewell to Weapons,** the *Katsuhiro Otomo* story of a small unit of soldiers in high-tech combat suits trying to enforce a World War IV cease fire. Of course, Otomo is well-known to American fans for his work on the stunning series Akira, so there should be tremendous interest in this book. The second title is **Sam and Max Go to the Moon,** a new one-shot by *Steve Purcell* that takes these freelance police-animals to the moon to referee a dispute between the rats and the roaches.

Each copy of the **Dirt Bag Special** will also include a cassette single of a hot new band, so readers will get a total of $8 worth of merchandise for only $3.50. Look for both **Dirt Bag Specials** in late April.

An Appetite For Destruction

Is the Silver Surfer immortal? We can't answer that for sure--but we can say that he seems to be alive and well in the 31st Century. **Guardians of the Galaxy #25**, an April release, teams up the Guardians and the Silver Surfer to do battle with Galactus, who is once again threatening to turn the Earth into an h'ors d'ouevre. Firestar also guest-stars in the cosmic conflict, which is written and pencilled by *Jim Valentino* and inked by *Steve Montano*.

This special issue will feature 48 pages of story and art, but that's not the feature that'll catch your attention on the racks. To make sure you don't overlook **Guardians #25**, Marvel is adding a laser foil cover, similar to the one features on **Hellraiser #10.** Remember how that *other* foil cover with Silver Surfer on it disappeared in no time? Well, it very well could happen again with this one... **Guardians of the Galaxy #25,** a $2.50 comic, is scheduled for April 16th release.

Down By the River

Jim Woodring has built quite a reputation for himself as a cutting-edge creator due to his work on **Jim.** In April, Tundra will present Woodring's latest project, **Frank In the River**. This 32-page full-color comic features a 24-page pantomime adventure story by Woodring that introduces Frank, described by Tundra as "an innocent little creature whose curiosity lands him hip deep in mystery, demons, minimum wage...and Manhog, one of the most repulsive villains ever to spring from the mind of man." Rounding out the book's contents is "Montgomery Wart," an eight-pager by *Mark Martin*, creator of **20 Nude Dancers 20**.

While you're enjoying Frank In the River, you can also consider it a portent of things to come: Tundra has already announced the upcoming release of **Tantalizing Stories**, a bi-monthly series featuring work by Jim Woodring, Mark Martin, and others. Frank In the River, a full-color comic on high quality stock, is priced at $2.95.

Frank In The River ™ & ©1992 Jim Woodring

Go for the Gold

Spider-Man is turning thirty this year, and every Spider-Man title will celebrate that landmark anniversary, beginning with Spectacular Spider-Man #189. This $2.95 48-page issue will pit Spider-Man against the Green Goblin in what Marvel describes as "their final battle"; it will also feature the origin of Spider-Man, as seen through Aunt May's eyes. The grabber, though, is the gold foil embossed cardstock cover; since Silver Surfer #50, Marvel's first foil-covered book, had to go to three printings to satisfy demand, you can expect similar interest in this book. Spectacular Spider-Man #189, written by *J.M. De Matteis* and illustrated by *Sal Buscema*, is scheduled for April 30th release.

Expanding the Chroma-Tick Scales

The response to NEC's **Chroma-Tick Special Edition #1** has been so overwhelming that even before the book debuts, NEC has announced the impending release of **Chroma-Tick Special Edition #2**, reprinting **Tick #2** in full color. As with the first **Special Edition, Chroma-Tick #2** will include additional pages, interview material, a new full-color centerfold poster, four more special Tick Trading Cards, and more. Oh, yeah--if you figure you'll just wait and pick up the entire **Tick Trading Card set** once NEC releases it separately, you should be aware that, according to NEC, "These particular cards will differ in special ways from the cards in **The Tick Trading Card Set** when it does appear. These are special cards which will not be available from any other source!" And as with the first issue, NEC will never do a second printing of this color volume--so get it while the gettin's good!...

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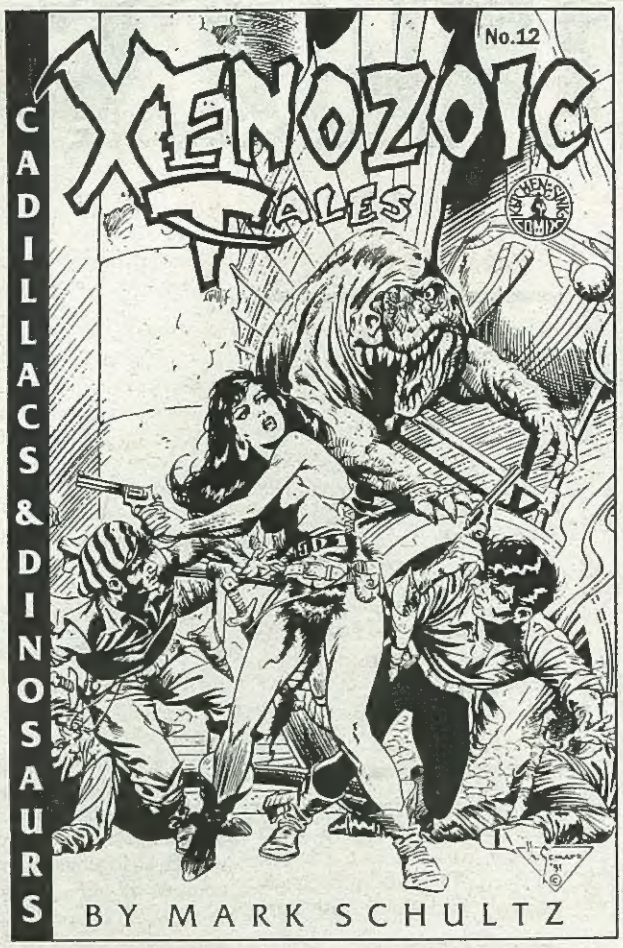
THE CROW
A tale of blackest tragedy. A saga of violent, bloody retribution.

Volume One includes the impossible-to-find issues 1 & 2—Available January 1992
Volume Two collects issues 3 & 4—Available March 1992
Volume Three presents for the first time the explosive conclusion—Available May 1992
Each Volume is 64 pages, black-and-white interior with full-color cover for only $4.95

QUICKSHOTS

Xenozoic Tales Gets Okay to Use a Caddy

No, creator *Mark Schultz* isn't taking up golf--the Caddy in question here is General Motors' Cadillac, and Schultz and Kitchen Sink Press have recently signed a contract with General Motors giving them full rights to use the title **Cadillacs & Dinosaurs** in merchandising tie-ins effective immediately. "To make it clear that the comic book **Xenozoic Tales** is the original source for any merchandise," Kitchen Sink said, "the **C&D** logo will appear on the side of the **Xenozoic Tales** comic book from now on..." That's just one change that Xenozoic Tales fans will notice when **XT #12** appears on the racks in April, however; Kitchen Sink has also upgraded the printing and paper quality of the comic, using white interior stock and coated cardstock covers, which should help bring out the finely detailed linework for which Schultz is so popular.



Xenozoic Tales #12 takes Jack and Hannah to the land of the Wassoon, where physical conflicts succumb to political intrigues--but as it turns out, both can be equally deadly. **Xenozoic Tales #12,** a 32-page black-and-white comic priced at $2.95, is scheduled for April release.

Superman is the De-Terminator

Deathstroke the Terminator has stood his own against some pretty capable adversaries--but is even his array of weaponry and his incredible skill enough to stand against the Man of Steel? We'll find out beginning on April 23rd when **Superman #68** begins a two-title three-part confrontation between the two heroes. In the first installment, Superman must bring in the outlaw Deathstroke; the story continues into **Deathstroke the Terminator #**s 12 and 13. **Superman #68** is written and pencilled by *Dan Jurgens* and is inked by *Brett Breeding.*

The storyline also connects with **New Titans #87,** an April 23rd release that also features Superman and Deathstroke. If that isn't reason enough to check out the issue, how about this: Nightwing gets a new look and a new costume in this issue and Donna Troy makes an announcement regarding her health that will change her life forever. **New Titans #87** is written by *Marv Wolfman,* pencilled by *Tom Grummett,* and inked by *Al Vey.*

THE MESSAGE IS GIANT RABID RATMAN... IS REEEALLY TICKED OFF AT THE MEGSTER.
AND YES THAT IS PIECES OF RAD BLOWIN' OUT OF HIS CHEST!
YOU CAUGHT THE GLOW... DON'T MISS THE 4 PAGE PULL-OUT POSTER!

BOTH BOOKS SHIP MARCH 10
MANY RETAILERS UNDER-ORDERED • PLEASE CHECK YOUR ORDER
BOTH COVERS BY NEAL ADAMS AND POWERFULLY INKED BY RICHARD BENNETT

MARCH HOT PICKS

by cliff biggers

If you've had the winter doldrums, you're not alone; comics output went into a bit of a slump as well, as you undoubtedly noticed. Now that spring is all but here, publishers are feeling reinvigorated, though; you'll notice that there are about 10% more items on the checklist this month than last, a sure sign that publishers are gearing up for the big summer bonanza. So that you can keep up with the best that March has to offer, here's CSN's list of the Top Two Dozen must-haves.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN 362

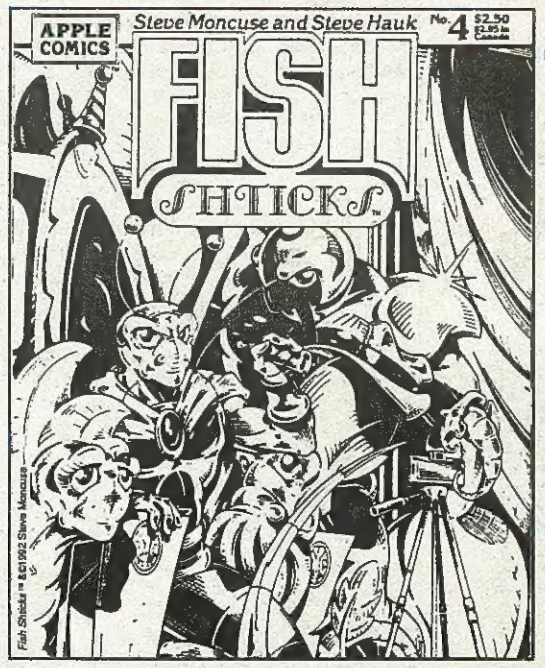
We told you that Carnage was going to be one hot character--but even we were surprised at just how hot he was! Sellouts, collector's prices, second printings--who'da thunk it? Well, get ready for an equally enthusiastic response to ***Amazing Spider-Man #362,*** which continues the story. This is some of the best work Michelinie and Bagley have ever done--and in Carnage, they've created a comics villain who is even more loathsome than Hannibal Lector!... *(Marvel, $1.25)*

COMPLETE ELFQUEST GN VOLUME 8

There's no doubt about it--fans have been spoiled by these lovely color volumes. Even when the black and white issues are available, fans are counting the months until the next painted-color collection hits the stands. Well, according to Warp Graphics, this is the month--but don't expect these books to sit on the stands for long, since ***Elfquest*** fans remain some of the most loyal in the comics field! *(Warp Graphics, $17.95)*

CREEPY 1

Harris Publications and Dark Horse are ready to follow up the success of Vampirella with a second Warren-Magazine-inspired horror series; this time, instead of a sensual, buxom vampire, we get a sepulchral ghoulish uncle, but that's not likely to disturb fans of the old **Creepy** in the least. The new ***Creepy*** is less an EC knock-off than a conceptual frame story in which Uncle Creepy plays an active role--but the selling point for this book is going to be the quality work by creators such as Peter David, Tom Sutton, Gene Colan, and Dan Brereton. *(Harris/Dark Horse, $3.95)*



DARK SHADOWS 1

What television show has almost as devoted a following as the original ***Star Trek? Dark Shadows***, that's what! It's been around for over a quarter of a century now, in two different incarnations--and it's that second incarnation, as a prime-time television series last year, that's the inspiration for this comic book series. Barnabas Collins' popularity, like his vampiric role, lives on past his ratings death; Innovation is giving this book the fully-painted approach that has proven so popular on ***Vampire Lestat***, so you know it'll be a quality product. You may as well grab it when you see it; you know how disappointed you are when you have to wait for second printings... *(Innovation, $2.50)*

DOC SAVAGE: DOOM DYNASTY 1

Millennium's first ***Doc Savage*** series received more critical acclaim than any Doc Savage comic in history; this second series, which presents the hitherto-unrevealed origins of Doc and the motivations of his father in "manufacturing" the Man of Bronze, is likely to be even more popular than its predecessor. Millennium knows how to do Doc right, and they've brought together a creative staff whose love of the character shows in every issue. No Doc Savage fan will be able to pass up the eye-catching Brian Stelfreeze cover on this book... *(Millennium, $2.50)*

FISH SHTICKS 4

A few years back, Steve Moncuse's ***Fish Police*** was one of the hottest black-and-white comics around; watch for history to repeat itself with ***Fish Shticks***, thanks in large part to CBS's upcoming prime-time ***Fish Police*** animated series. ***Fish Shticks***, which continues the exploits of Inspector Gill, is every bit as entertaining as the original Fish Police series; look for a lot of fans to rediscover the series once the cartoons start. *(Apple, $2.50)*

FLASH 62

The Wally West Flash is both entertaining and popular--but when you say "Flash" to us old-timers, it's Barry Allen we immediately think of. In this new Flash story arc, readers will meet Barry Allen again--this time, however, they'll see him from the point of view of the young Wally West, the Kid Flash. This "Flash Year One" style storyline focuses on West's original Kid Flash incarnation and shows how he went from there to his current role as the Flash. This four-parter will be published on a bi-weekly basis, which always seems to enhance demand for a series (no, we don't claim to understand that phenomenon--we're just taking note of it). *(DC, $1)*

GHOST RIDER 25

It's not just a figure of Ghost Rider that'll be popping up in this gala twenty-fifth issue--it's also fan demand for this book, which hasn't been too slack to begin with! In addition to Marvel's first-ever pop-up, this issue also has a glow-in-the-dark cover and an extra-length story; put 'em all together and it spells "sell-out." *(Marvel, $2.50)*

HARD BOILED 3

Ultra violence lives on in the final issue of the hot Frank Miller-Geoff Darrow miniseries. If you thought the first two issues were brutal, you'd better steel yourself for the climax of this series. Darrow has worked on ***Hard Boiled #3*** for months, and it's worth the wait; despite the graphic nature of the material, this is some of the most fascinating comics work you'll ever see--sort of a "Where's Waldo?" for the ***Terminator II*** generation... *(Dark Horse, $5.95)*

HARD LOOKS 1

Okay, I'll admit it: I'm an Andrew Vacchs fan. My enjoyment of his books isn't the only reason ***Hard Looks*** is on the Hot Picks list, though; it seems that Vacchs has many other fans, including some of the most creative talents working in comics today, and they've lined up for a chance to offer their interpretations of Vacchs stories. Once you become familiar with Vacchs' work through ***Hard Looks***, you'll probably be tracking down his books as well. Since there are no spandex-clad superheroes in this one, odds are it's been underordered by many stores, so don't pass it by once you see it; there may be no second chances. *(Dark Horse, $2.50)*

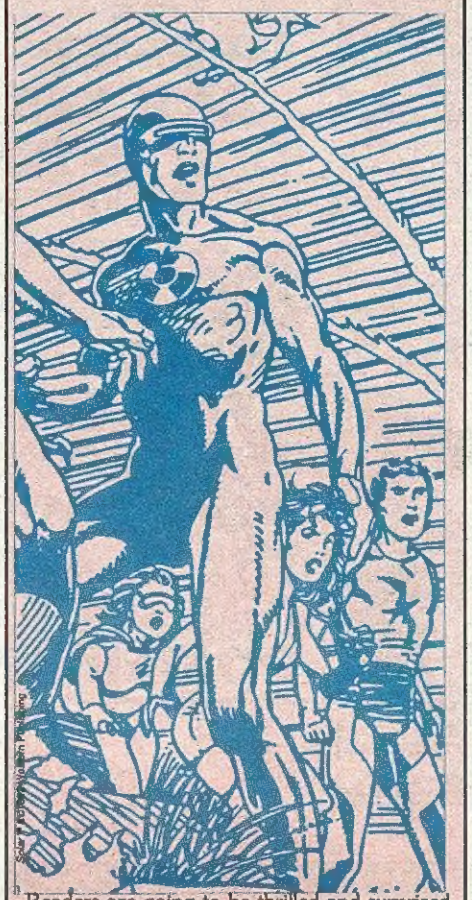
HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

Have you ever thought about the sheer lunacy behind this superhero biz? Obviously the creators of ***How To Be a Superhero*** have, and the result is one of the most amusing reading experiences you're likely to find on the comics racks. The books is filled with astute, clever jabs at the clichés, traditions, and formulas prevalent in comics--but it's done with an appreciation for, and awareness of, the genre that keeps it from becoming a superhero put-down. NBM has a sure hit here; let's hope there's a volume 2 in the works, since there's still some unexplored territory here... *(NBM, $7.95)*

march's overlooked sizzler

solar man of the atom

Maybe it isn't *totally* accurate to refer to ***Solar, Man of the Atom*** as an overlooked gem; after all, it has solid sales and a loyal audience. Nevertheless, ***Solar, Man of the Atom #10*** is an issue that deserves some *extra* attention. First, it features Barry Windsor-S mith's dramatic conclusion to the ongoing Solar origin tale that has appeared in each issue of the series thus far. Second, and even more important, it's a crucial lead in story for the upcoming *Unity* storyline that will tie together every Valiant comic in the next few months.



Readers are going to be thrilled and surprised with this book--but most importantly, they'll be entertained! (And isn't that what comics collecting is all about?...) *(Valiant, $3.50)*

--AND IT'S THE SAME ALL OVER ONE BIG VOLCANO!
HOW TO
Mark Leigh and Mike Lepine
Authors of How to be a Complete Bastard
Illustrated by Steve Dillon
CREE

CSN HOT PICKS

IT'S THE ALL OVER THE BIG LAND!
AND I CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE OF IT! THE HEAT... THE AIR...
I KNOW IT'S BAD. THE AMOUNT OF SULFUR IN THE ATMOSPHERE MUST BE INCREDIBLE!
HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO
Mark Leigh and Mike Lepine
hors of How to be a omplete Bastard
trated by Steve Dillon
SAVE THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE IN 30 DAYS
CREEPY

IMAGES OF OMAHA 1

Benefit books are often pretty mediocre comics; the causes may be good and the intentions may be admirable, but the results are often lackluster, boring comics that seem to present the worst of each creator. ***Images of Omaha*** is a benefit book, but it avoids these problems by focusing on both a cause and a character. Reed Waller, creator of ***Omaha the Cat Dancer***, is faced with phenomenal medical bills as a result of continuing catastrophic illness treatments, and some of the finest talents in comics have come to his aid with this book. Since ***Omaha*** is an adult book, ***Images of Omaha*** is likewise intended for adults only--but it's an adult book with an adult purpose that deserves support from every adult comics reader (and with these creators, it's likely to get it). *(Kitchen Sink, $3.95)*

JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA 61

JUSTICE LEAGUE EUROPE 37

Last month's ***Justice League Spectacular*** first introduced the new Justice Leagues; this month, fans get to see each team in individual action in these "premiere issues." With new creators and new team members, the Justice League (both versions) is going to be the focus of a lot of attention–and that's going to generate some pretty quick sellouts on both of these books. Older fans won't be able to resist the appeal of ***Justice League America #61***'s cover, a take-off on a classic ***Justice League of America*** cover from the dawn of the Silver Age. *(DC, $1 @)*

MARGOT IN BADTOWN GN

I have no doubt that art fans are going to love this book–but I hope that after they've admired page after page of stunning artwork, they'll take the time to read the book as well. Margot is a cinematic, scene-shifting adventure-farce with unusual charm; I have no doubts, though, that it'll be Frezzato's artwork that fans will be raving about. *(Tundra, $14.95)*

NEW TITANS 86

Over the past few months, the ***New Titans*** has been gradually re-establishing itself as one of DC's better ongoing series; after the creative misadventures that threw the book off-kilter a few years ago, it's about time that it once again reclaimed a position in DC's upper echelon. Fans are taking notice of the book again, each issue seems to sell out a little bit quicker than the one before, and people are talking about the characters–a sure sign that ***New Titans*** is starting to simmer. This issue's conflict between Deathstroke and Nightwing has the potential to turn that simmer into a sizzle. *(DC, $1.75)*

NOMAD 1

Maybe Marvel should rename the "Big Guns" 1992 promotion "Big Sales." Thus far, they're batting a thousand with three hot-selling debuts; this month, look for them to extend that to four hot-sellers. ***Nomad*** was very popular in his miniseries incarnation; Fabian Nicieza's stories are just as good in this series as they were in the original, and Clarke Hawbaker's art has the strong visual appeal that" give ***Nomad*** a very short shelf-life indeed. *(Marvel, $2)*

art of the month

Hard Looks

*Pin-up from **X-Force Annual #1***

TARZAN THE WARRIOR 1

For an eighty-year-old, Tarzan looks amazingly spry in this new comic book! Some fans are going to give this one a try because of their affection for Edgar Rice Burroughs' famous character; others are going to be drawn in to see how Hempel, Vokes, and Wheatley have updated the character to the 1990's. Both groups will be pleased with the book; ***Tarzan the Warrior*** is a modern Tarzan story that captures the flavor of Burroughs' character without ever becoming anachronistic. Perennial interest in Tarzan and Burroughs should result in a quick sellout, since ***Tarzan*** will attract some customers who don't normally buy comics. *(Malibu, $2.50)*

WEIRD TALES ILLUSTRATED 1

Weird Tales is a title with an admirable heritage; in the Golden Age of Pulp Magazines, ***Weird Tales*** was the home of the latest work by H.P. Lovecraft, E.

Hoffman Price,Robert E. Howard, Clark Ashton Smith, and many other noteworthy creators of the fantastic, horrifying, and macabre. This new comics series will adapt some of those classic tales and add some original tales in the Weird Tales tradition. The John Bolton cover guarantees that fans will notice the first issue; the contents should entice them to give it a try. *(Millennium, $2.95; $4.95 for the special deluxe edition with extra material)*

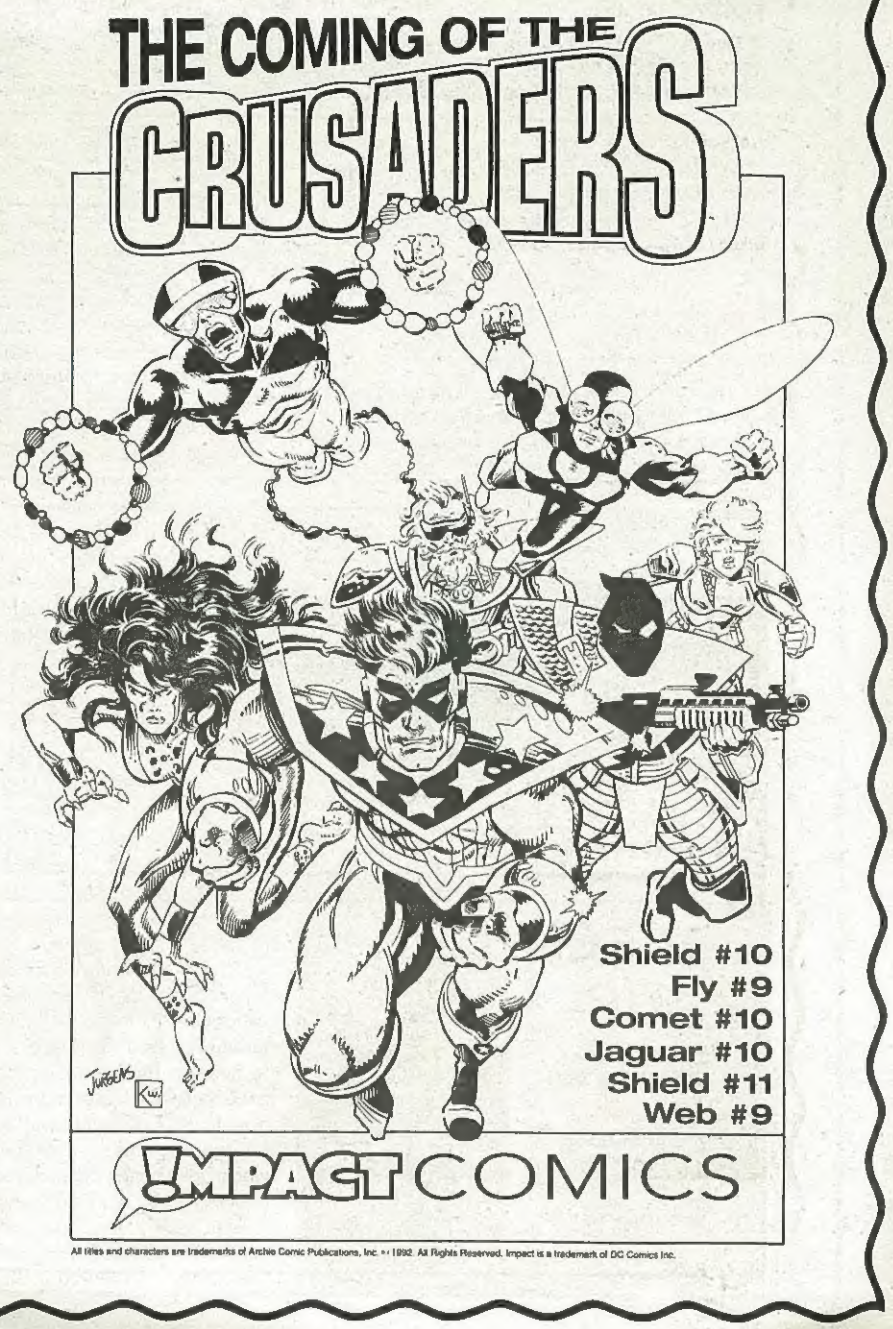
X-MEN ANNUAL 1

UNCANNY X-MEN ANNUAL 16

X-FACTOR ANNUAL 7

X-FORCE ANNUAL 1

Remember when annuals used to be an entertainment even to be anticipated? Well,


THE COMING OF THE CRUSADERS
Shield #10
Fly #9
Comet #10
Jaguar #10
Shield #11
Web #9
IMPACT COMICS
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MARCH HOT PICKS

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES™

CAREFUL YOU DON'T HURT MY LITTLE FRIEND, YOU BIG DOPE...!
!
UHN...!
THEN HOW ABOUT I HURT YOU INSTEAD!
GUNCH
WHA...?
THE GREEN ONE TAKES A BLOW MEANT FOR MY CHILD...?
2-24
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. I HAVE DONE NOTHING TO HELP YOU...
..YET YOU SAVE THE LIFE OF ONE OF MY CHILDREN?
2-25
LIFE IS PRECIOUS, DUDE.
ALL LIFE!
YES...NO, NOT ALL LIFE--
--NOT THEIRS.
ATTACK THEM, MY CHILDREN!
I HAVE ERRED WISHING TO SIDE WITH THE ALIENS.
THEIR WAY OF DEATH...IT IS WRONG.
I SHALL CALL FORTH MORE OF MY CHILDREN TO HELP THE GREEN ONES...
2-26
MY BROTHER-- BEFORE WE BECOME OVERWHELMED--
I THINK IT TIME FOR YOU TO LET ONE FLY...!
YESSS...
MY BROTHER--WE ARE NEARLY OVERWHELMED--
IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO LET ONE FLY...!
2-27
BREEEE
YESSS--IT IS TIME TO CRUSH THESE STINKY EARTHLINGS!
EEEE
OH NO YOU DON'T, YOU BIG STINKER!
DUNK
NO...!
BREEE
TIME TO LET FLY A BIG ONE...
2-30
NO WAY, STINKY--KEEP IT TO YOURSELF...!
DUNK
POOO!
CLARBAIN/LANSON/BERGER-KELLENER
GREEN TIP™
EVERY DAY IS EARTH DAY
PLEASE SEND YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AGE AND GREEN TIP TO TMNT GREEN TIPS PO BOX 269 NORTHAMPTON, MA 01061
"BUY COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS AND LOW-FLOW SHOWERHEADS--PRODUCTS WHICH WILL SAVE MONEY, ENERGY AND WATER."
DENNIS NELSON CHICAGO, IL
2-29

that time is back--and none too soon! Fabian Nicieza, popular author of ***New Warriors*** and ***Adventures of Captain America,*** is the author of this four-part series that runs through all the mutant annuals; he's working with some of the hottest art talents in the business, including Lee, Capullo, Quesada, Liefeld, and others, to make "Shattershot" a must-read story for every mutant fan. Longshot and Shatterstar play an important part in this series, and both characters have enormous followings of their own. Furthermore, this annual story-cycle has two first issues included--and once fans pick up these two, how will they be able to resist the other two books to complete the storyline?! *(Marvel, $2.25@)*

YOUNGBLOOD 2

There are over 300,000 copies of ***Youngblood #1*** ordered–but judging from advance reaction from fans and from the national press, that may not be enough to meet demand! Collectors will be particularly mindful of the "GI Joe Syndrome" (a hot first issue followed by a much harder-to-find second issue that soars in value) with ***Youngblood #2,*** so sales are unlikely to fall very much, meaning that this may actually be a seriously underordered comic! *(Malibu, $2.50)*

Have you seen anything in this issue of ***Comic Shop News*** that you can't live without? Make sure you don't miss it; clip this handy coupon and write down the things that you want you comics shop owner to be sure to get for you!

Name_____

Address _____

_____

Phone _____

I gotta have 'em! Please reserve for me the following items mentioned in ***Comic Shop News!***

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Be sure to give this to your retailer. Do not send it to ***CSN!*** Your comics shop will make every effort to get the items you want; some items may require a down payment before your shop owner can get them for you; be sure to ask!

Riddler Redux

In the upcoming Batman limited series ***Run Riddler Run,*** readers are presented with an industrialist's plan for Gotham City that makes it sound like the kind of a place in which Robocop would feel right at home. On the surface, Gotham City seems to be an urban utopia--no homelessness, no poverty, and no crime. But if there's no crime, then why does the plan call for a cyborg security force?...

As Bruce Wayne becomes involved in the plans to reshape Gotham, he discovers that this plan for an urban mecca isn't quite as wonderful as it first seems. For one thing, someone keeps blowing up the squatters... Furthermore, it seems that the Riddler is involved in some rather odd way. And how did the Riddler get involved? Well, he's the mastermind behind the security cyborgs in the new crime-free zone of Gotham City! And it seems that in addition to eliminating crime, they may have some similar intentions for Batman... But as Batman soon learns, the answers in this case are as enigmatic as the Riddler's puzzling quips.

Batman: Run Riddler Run is written by Gerard Jones, whose mixture of humor and action has entertained fans of ***Justice League Europe*** and ***Green Lantern***. Jones is joined by artist Mark Badger, who worked with him on the Piranha Press series ***The Score.*** Badger supplies not only the line art, but also the fully painted color and the cover paintings for the entire three-issue prestige-format limited series.

Batman™ &©1992 DC Comics

And if you remember Badger's work on ***The Score***, then you know that ***Batman: Run Riddler Run*** won't at all resemble your typical Batman limited series...

Batman: Run Riddler Run #1, a 48-page comic priced at $4.95, is scheduled for May 7th release.

by LANNY LATHEM

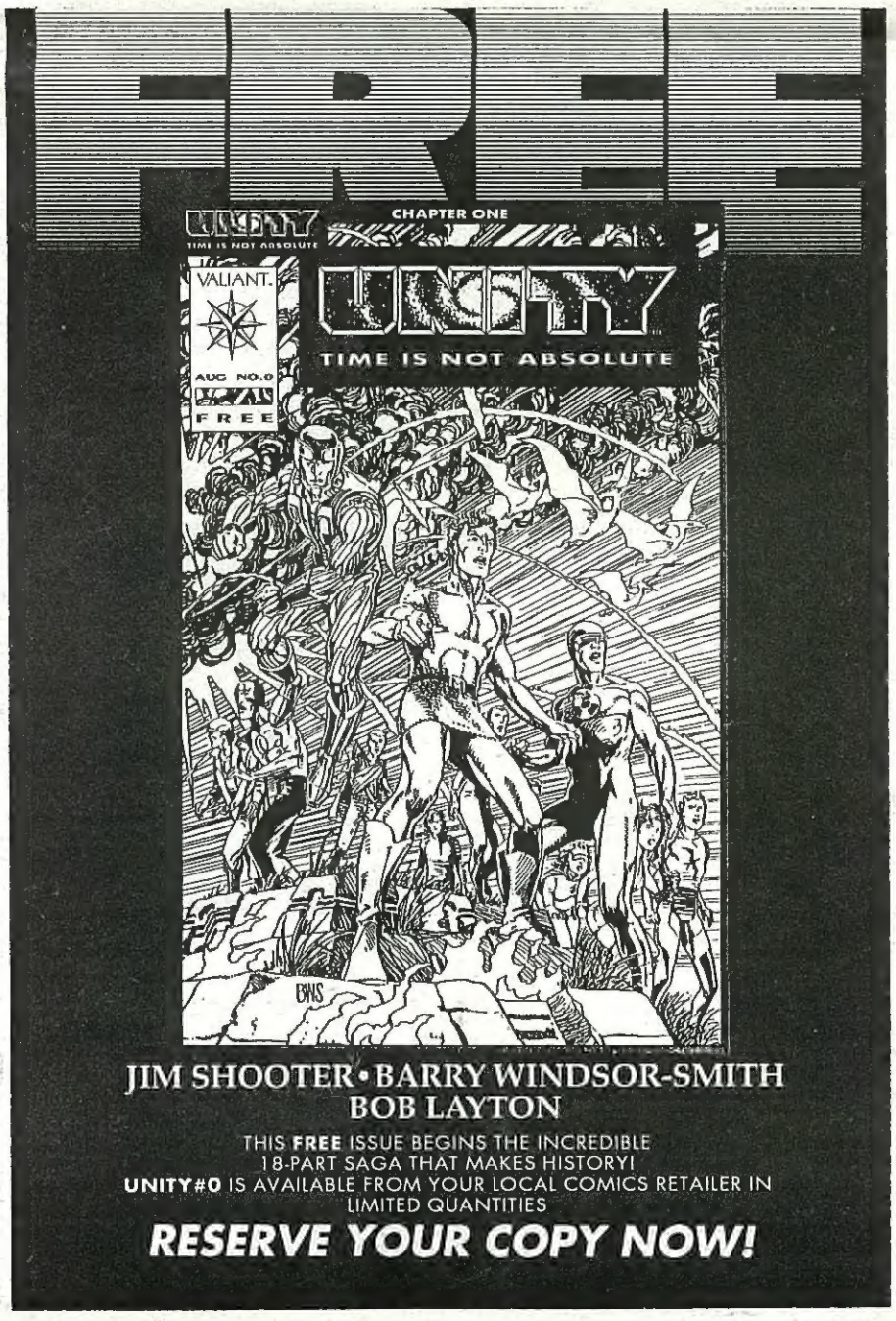
Collectibles Françcais

Editions Deese, the French publisher which has offered a number of high-quality portfolios and limited edition prints in the past, has three new items slated for April release that should appeal to Marvel fans with a less-than-limited budget. First are two serigraphs (silk-screen prints), each printed in twelve colors on 260-gram artist-quality paper; each serigraph reproduces a classic *Jack Kirby* illustration, one of **Dr. Doom** and the other of the **Fantastic Four.** There will only be 250 serigraphs in each run, and each will be hand-signed by Kirby himself. Each serigraph is priced at $150.

The third item is a six-plate 2500-copy edition **Daredevil Portfolio**, featuring artwork by fan-favorite *John Romita Jr.* All six plates are printed in black and white and packaged in an embossed folder; JRJr has signed each portfolio. The **Daredevil Portfolio** is bargain-priced at $30; as with all specialty items of this sort, you should let your local comic shop know that you're interested (and let 'em know that **CSN** sent you!).

Udderly Unexpected

Okay, they gave you **The Tick**... they gave you **Paul the Samurai**... but did you ever think they've give you **Man-Eating Cow**? Yes indeed, it's another **Tick** spin-off from those zany guys at NEC. If you're looking for an adventurous hero who wears leather *all* the time, then **Man-Eating Cow** is just what you need. **Tick** creator *Ben Edlund* describes the tone of this book as "dark stupid," but you'll have to pick up the first issue to see just what he means. But any book whose villain is a washed-up rodeo clown named Krinkles certainly has an edge all its own. **Man-Eating Cow #1,** written by *Clay Griffith* and illustrated by *Alan Hopkins* and *Jeff Whiting*, is priced at $2.75; look for it in April.

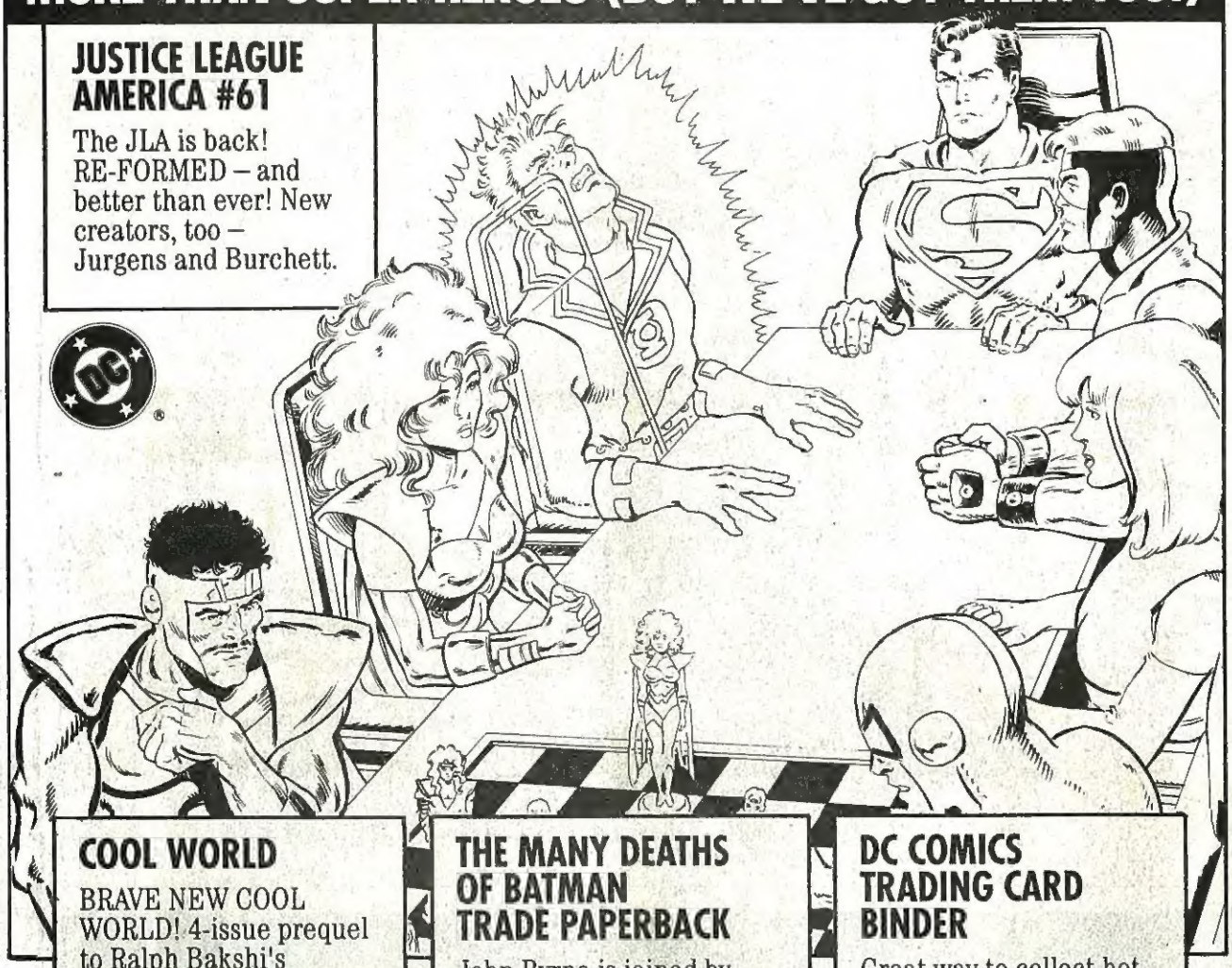


STAKE YOUR CLAIM
for a piece of
DUCKBURG
SHOES
VANS FINE HORNS
TRAMPLE
BAKE
Collect all NINE pieces of the Duckburg Map
which will be in specially marked Disney Comics
in April, May, and June to be eligible for
FREE GIFTS! Double your Fun...
...By collecting all nine pieces of the Duckburg Map you also collect all nine issues of great Disney Comics! Each monthly issue of Donald Duck Adventures, Walt Disney's Comics & Stories, and Uncle Scrooge, from April through June, will include a piece of the map. Answer the questions about each map piece and you may be the lucky winner of Original Newspaper Comic Strip Art!
After you've collected all nine pieces and answered all nine questions, write your answers on the Official Entry Form in Uncle Scrooge issue #269 and send it to: Disney COMICS Duckburg Map Promotion, 500 S. Buena Vista Street, Burbank CA 91521-6850. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. See Official Rules for complete details.

MORE THAN SUPER-HEROES (BUT WE'VE GOT THEM TOO!)

JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA #61

The JLA is back! RE-FORMED – and better than ever! New creators, too – Jurgens and Burchett.



COOL WORLD

BRAVE NEW COOL WORLD! 4-issue prequel to Ralph Bakshi's upcoming live action and animated film – a Paramount summer sizzler!

THE MANY DEATHS OF BATMAN TRADE PAPERBACK

John Byrne is joined by BATMAN artist Jim Aparo for this gruesome tale of murder in Gotham. (from BATMAN #433-435)

DC COMICS TRADING CARD BINDER

Great way to collect hot new DC trading cards. 20 vinyl sheets – 9 cards each – fits 180 trading cards in all! Full color, 3-ring binder. $11.95

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